

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 BEIRUT 05801 191135Z

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 SS-15 SSO-00 NSCE-00 SP-02

PM-05 INRE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 SSM-03 PA-01

PRS-01 USIE-00 DODE-00 /058 W

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FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5882

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY CAIRO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY JIDDA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV PRIORITY

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM PRIORITY

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PLO, LE, EG

SUBJ: FURTHER PALESTINIAN AND LEBANESE REACTION TO SADAT'S VISIT

REF: BEIRUT 5792

1. BEGIN SUMMARY. THE PALESTINIANS HAVE AGAIN CONDEMNED SADAT'S VISIT, WHILE REFRAINING FROM PERSONAL ATTACKS ON THE EGYPTIAN PRESIDENT. Wafa CARRIED STATEMENTS DENYING ARAFAT APPROVED OF THE VISIT OR THAT FATAH WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE EXPLOSION AT THE EGYPTIAN MISSION IN DAMASCUS. IN THE FIRST PUBLIC COMMENT BY A GOL OFFICIAL, PRIME MINISTER AL HOSS REFERRED OBLIQUELY TO THE VISIT. END SUMMARY.

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PAGE 02 BEIRUT 05801 191135Z

2. THE PALEESTINIANS HAVE AGAIN STRONGLY CRITICIZED SADAT'S TRIP TO EGYPT. THE PLO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND "REPRESENTATIVES OF ALL THE PALESTINIAN ORGANIZATIONS" MET NOVEMBER 18 AND, ACCORDING TO Wafa, ISSUED A COMMUNIQUE WHICH CALLED FOR "OUR PEOPLE UNDER OCCUPATION" (PRESUMABLY IN ALL OF ISRAEL) TO "DECLARE A GENERAL STRIKE." THE COMMUNIQUE ALSO

SAID:

--"THE DECISION TAKEN BY PRESIDENT SADAT REPRESENTS APOSTASY FROM THE DEAREST AND MOST SACRED GOALS OF OUR PEOPLE AND NATION AND A DISAVOWAL OF THE BLOOD OF HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF MARTYRS WHO DIES FOR PALESTINE AND FOR THE ARAB LAND."

--"THE STEP TAKEN BY SADAT SQUARELY DEALS A BLOW AT ALL THE PRINCIPLES OF ARAB SOLIDARITY;

--"THE ARAB NATION WILL NOT FORGIVE ANY ARAB RULER FOR SUCH A STEP."

--"IN ANNOUNCING ITS REJECTION OF PRESIDENT SADAT'S STEP, THE PALESTINIAN LEADERSHIP REAFFIRMS ITS ATTACHMENT TO THE POLITICAL PROGRAM AND RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED IN THE VARIOUS PALESTINIAN NATIONAL CONGRESSES."

3. "WE CALL ON THE PALESTINIAN MASSES WHEREVER THEY ARE TO CONFIRM THEIR RALLYING AROUND THEIR LEADERSHIP AND THEIR SOLE LEGITIMATE REPRESENTATIVE - THE PLO - AND TO STRONGLY CONFRONT BOTH ALL CALLS FOR SURRENDER AND THE DEFEATIST CLIMATE WHICH THE ZIONIST-U.S. ENEMY IS TRYING TO IMPOSE ON THE ARAB NATION."

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PAGE 03 BEIRUT 05801 191135Z

4. "THE PALESTINIAN GUN, THE BLOOD OF THOUSANDS OF MARTYRS . . . WILL PAVE THE WAY TOWARDS THE LIBERATION OF JERUSALEM AND THE AQSA MOSQUE UNTIL THE PALESTINIAN FLAG IS RAISED OVER THE SOIL OF OUR SACRED HOMELAND."

5. ALSO ON NOVEMBER 18, AN "OFFICIAL PALESTINIAN SOURCE," AS REPORTED BY Wafa, DENIED "AS COMPLETELY FALSE" A BBC REPORT THAT ARAFAT HAD APPROVED OF SADAT'S VISIT. A "FATAH OFFICIAL" ALSO DENIED NEWS REPORTS THAT FATAH WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE EXPLOSION AT THE EGYPTIAN MISSION IN DAMASCUS; HE SAID FATAH "HAD ABSOLUTELY NOTHING TO DO WITH THE INCIDENT."

6. IN THE FIRST PUBLIC COMMENT BY A GOL OFFICIAL, PRIME MINISTER AL HOSS ON NOVEMBER 17 MADE AN OBLIQUE REFERENCE TO SADAT'S TRIP, SAYING "WE HAD HOPED THAT NOTHING WOULD HAPPEN TO SPLIT ARAB RANKS OR SHAKE ARAB ACCORD . . . THE JUST AND LASTING SOLUTION OF THE PALESTINIAN PROBLEM WHICH WE WERE ALL SEEKING REQUIRES ARAB UNITY" (AS REPORTED BY ENGLISH LANGUAGE DAILY IKE).

7. COMMENT: THE PLO COMMUNIQUE CONDEMNS SADAT'S VISIT IN STRONGER TERMS THAN THE NOVEMBER 17 FATAH COMMUNIQUE AND AGAIN MAKES CLEAR THAT THE PALESTINIANS FEAR THE VISIT MAY FUNDAMENTALLY UNDERMINE THEIR POSITION. NEVERTHELESS, THE PLO COMMUNIQUE, LIKE THE FATAH COMMUNIQUE, ATTACKS ONLY THE VISIT AND NOT SADAT PERSONALLY. AS IN THE FATAH COMMUNIQUE, THERE IS ONLY A PASSING PRO-FORMA CONDEMNATION OF THE UNITED STATES. END COMMENT.  
PARKER

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## Message Attributes

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